calculating a signal representative of an estimated rhythm of the <u>received</u> auscultation signal[; characterized in that], the signal representative of the estimated rhythm [is] <u>being</u> calculated [by means of] <u>using</u> a filter having a frequency response corresponding to <u>at least one of</u> an A-weighing [or] <u>and</u> an approximated A-weighing[, at least] for a frequency range of interest.

Claim 24,   line 1, change "A" to --The--, and delete "characterized in that"; and

line 2, change "is" to --being--, and change "by means of" to --using--.
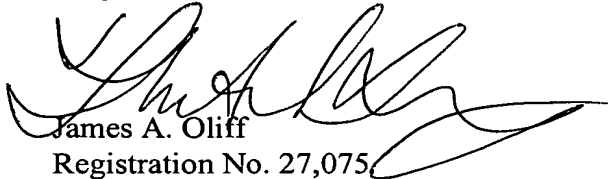
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25.   (Twice Amended) [A] <u>The</u> method according to claim 14, [characterized in that] the frequency range of interest [is the] <u>being in a</u> frequency range [below] <u>of less than</u> 2000Hz.

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending. By this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-25 are amended. The specification and claims 1-25 are amended for further clarity. No new matter is added.

The above amendments place the application in even better condition for initial examination. Prompt consideration and allowance in due courses are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment:
    Substitute Abstract
JAO:TAD/jjb

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ABSTRACT

An apparatus for processing auscultation signals, such as auscultation signals embedded in an electronic stethoscope with a digital readout of an estimated heart rate, is provided. The apparatus consists of a bias processor for receiving an auscultation signal and providing a biased auscultation signal. The bias processor consists of an envelope detector, and an estimator for calculating a signal representative of the beat frequency of the auscultation signal. In one aspect, the information in the biased auscultation signal that is in conformity with the repeated information in the auscultation signal is enhanced. This may be done by calculating the conformity between the biased auscultation and at least a part of the biased auscultation signal. In another aspect, the auscultation signal is biased by A-weighing.